Chattisgarh as a State or UT

†2799. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a detailed proposal has been submitted recently for formation of a separate Chattisgarh State;

(b) if so, the details of the above proposal and the reaction thereto;

(c) whether there is urgent need to declare Chattisgarh a separate State or a Union Territory for its overall development as it has been the most neglected region;

(d) whether local people and political groups of Chattisgarh have also given an extensive memorandum in this regard; and

(e) if so, the reasons and justification for not taking any decision on the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) to (e) The Government is committed to the formation of a separate State of Chhatisgarh. With this end in view, the Madhya Pradesh Re-organisation Bill, 2000 was drafted and referred to the State Legislature of Madhya Pradesh for expressing its views thereon, as required under article 3 of the Constitution of India. The views of the State Legislature have been received and the matter is being processed further.

BSF personnel deputed on Indo-Bangladesh Border

2800. DR. (SMT.) JOYASREE GOSWAMI MAHANTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of BSF personnel deputed now at each watch post on Indo-Bangladesh border and time span of their daily duties as well as procedure of changing their duties;

(b) tenure of posting in each rank and how strictly it is adhered to;

(c) whether Government are aware that some of these BSF personnel indulge in corrupt practices and allow illegal migration of Bangladeshis into India by accepting illegal gratification; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to curb such practices and number of those personnel against whom action has been taken on this count during the last three years ?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYA SAGAR RAO) : (a) The details of deployment of the Force and its duty schedule cannot be disclosed in public interest.

(b) The officers and other ranks including jawans remain posted in one area/frontier for a period of 3-4 years.

(c) and (d) Whenever any report against BSF persons indulging in corrupt practices is received, immediate action is taken to enquiry into the matter and depending on the enquiry report disciplinary action is initiated against the concerned BSF personnel. A total of 05 BSF personnel were punished on this count according to gravity of the offences committed by them during last three years.

Massacre of Sikhs in Chattisinghpura Village

2801. SHRI ABANI ROY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of Sikhs were killed by Pakistan backed mercenaries at Chattisinghpura village in Kashmir as reported in all the newspapers dated 22nd March, 2000;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government have sought detailed report from the J&K Government in this regard;

(c) the total number of Sikhs killed and efforts made by the Central/ State Government to apprehend the culprits;

(d) whether the State Government have failed to protect the people residing in the valley; and

(e) the details of compensation etc. paid by the Central/State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYA SAGAR RAO) : (a) to (d) During the night, intervening March 20-21, terrorists armed with sophisticated weapons entered into Sikh dominated Chattisinghpura village, in Anantnag district and shot dead 35 persons belonging to the Sikh community.

Security forces immediately launched operations to apprehend the terrorists involved in the massacre. A local resident of Chattisinghpura was arrested for participating in the carnage, and the security forces conducted raids on terrorist hideouts resulting in the killing of a number of terrorists,